

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 TRSE-00 AID-05
OMB-01 SY-05 DHA-02 ACDA-07 PM-04 H-01 L-03
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 NEA-10
/117 W

-----181629Z 122594 /46

R 181325Z APR 77
FM AMCONSUL ASMARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4465
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON
COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN
COMIDEASTFOR
NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA
NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI
CNO WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL ASMARA 0317

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS ET
SUBJECT: PRO-EPMG DEMONSTRATION HELD IN ASMARA

1. EPMG AUTHORITIES IN ASMARA ORGANIZED A "SPONTANEOUS" DEMONSTRATION IN ASMARA IN SUPPORT OF MENGHISTU'S POLICIES ENUNCIATED IN HIS SPEECH OF APRIL 14. TRADE UNIONS, KEBELES AND GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WERE SPECIFICALLY INSTRUCTED IN AN ANNOUNCEMENT ON ASMARA RADIO THE NIGHT BEFORE THE DEMONSTRATION TO ASSEMBLE AT DESIGNATED POINTS AND PROCEED TO THE HQ OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION AT 9:00 AM. ALL BUSINESS, FACTORIES AND OFFICES

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WERE TO REMAIN CLOSED DURING THE DEMONSTRATION.

2. DEMONSTRATORS ASSEMBLED AS INSTRUCTED MONDAY MORNING (APRIL 18) AND PROCEED TO THE GOVERNMENT HQ. THE CITY WAS VERY QUIET, AS ALL NON-PARTICIPANTS APPARENTLY REMAINED IN THEIR HOMES. ALTHOUGH SECURITY WAS TIGHT AND NUMEROUS TROOPS WERE IN EVIDENCE, THE INSURGENTS DID CREATE SOME MINOR DISTURBANCES. THERE WERE

TWO EXPLOSIONS ABOUT 9:30 WHICH FRIGHTENED OFF A GROUP OF FACTORY WORKERS. ABOUT 10:00 AM SEVERAL SHOTS WERE FIRED IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA WITH NO APPARENT EFFECT.

3. SOME 12-15,000 DEMONSTRATORS PARTICIPATED CARRYING POSTERS PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL EPMG AUTHORITIES HEARD THREE SPOKESMEN REPRESENTING THE KEBELES, TRADE UNIONS AND THE HAMASIEN PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT READ STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT FOR THE EPMG IN ITS STRUGGLE AGAINST NUMEIRI, SADAT AND CIA MACHINATIONS. CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR FIKRU RESPONDED WITH A BRIEF MESSAGE OF THANKS FOR THEIR SUPPORT. THE ASSEMBLAGE THEN DISBANDED WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, PARAMILITARY FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770449/aaaabpur.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: fecdcba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: PINS, ET
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